GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:457
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2001
EXPORT OF TURMERIC
RAM SHAKAL

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether inspite of India`s monopoly in respect of Turmeric in World market, the percentage of export is only 5% of the total production;

(b) if so, the reasons for such low percentage of export; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of turmeric?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) & (b) : During 1998-99, the percentage of turmeric exports was 6.2% of its total production. India, being the leading producer and exporter of turmeric in the World market, is already meeting approximately over 90% of the total international demand of turmeric. Since the international demand is limited, the percentage of turmeric exports to its total production is also low.

(c) : Steps taken to increase export of turmeric include:

i) Supply of polythene sheets at subsidized cost for drying turmeric under hygeinic conditions.
ii) Assist exporters in setting up/ upgradation of in-house laboratories.
iii) Regular training programmes for quality upgradation of turmeric.
iv) Undertake reproductive toxicology studies of curcumin for promoting export

of turmeric products.

Spices Board is also implementing schemes like award of Spice House Certificate and Indian Spices Logo; Promotion of Indian brands abroad; Technology transfer and infrastructure upgradation; Trade promotion; Product development and end use development etc. for boosting export of spices including turmeric.